



Universal System Benefits Programs





Montana Governor's Energy Symposium October 18, 2005

Universal System Benefit Allocations

USB Categories

- Conservation
 - § E+ Energy Audits
 - § E+ Business Partners
- Market Transformation
 - § E+ Commercial Lighting
 - § Northwest Energy Efficiency Programs
- Renewables
 - § Residential Solar and Wind
 - § Small Commercial Solar and Wind



Universal System Benefit Allocations

USB Categories (cont.)

- Research and Development
 - § Demonstration Projects
 - § Electrician Training
 - § Customer Training and Education
- Low-Income
 - § Bill Assistance
 - § Free Weatherization
 - § Energy Share
- Large Customer



Historic Allocation of NWE USB Funds Among Public Purpose Categories

Actual USB Expenditures 1999 - 2004

| USB Categories | Electric | | Gas | | Total | Allocation |
|------------------------|------------------|----|-----------|----|------------|------------|
| Local Conservation | \$ 9,614,459 | \$ | 2,001,101 | \$ | 11,615,561 | 20% |
| Market Transformation | \$ 5,802,834 | | | \$ | 5,802,834 | 10% |
| Renewables | \$ 4,480,158 | | | \$ | 4,480,158 | 8% |
| Research & Development | \$ 1,123,096 | | | \$ | 1,123,096 | 2% |
| Low-Income | \$ 13,560,802 | \$ | 6,886,240 | \$ | 20,447,042 | 35% |
| Large Customers | \$ 15,687,269 | | | \$ | 15,687,269 | 27% |
| | \$ 50,268,617 | \$ | 8,887,342 | \$ | 59,155,959 | 100% |

Issues

- Should Large Customers be allowed to continue to self-direct USB money?
- What is the appropriate percentage allocation among low-income, weatherization and renewable energy efforts for USB funding?
- Should the USB rate of 2.4% be raised? If so, by how much?
- Should the current natural gas USB charge be increased or should a USB rate be applied to propane in order to help low-income customers offset extremely high natural gas and propane costs?